

MANY IMPROVEMENTS MADE IN PAST YEAR

Public Works of the District Progressing Rapidly.

PREPARING ANNUAL REPORTS

Appropriations the Largest in History. Routine Work Increasing at a Rapid Rate—What Has Been Accomplished in the Various Departments.

According to the expectations of the District Commissioners the annual reports of the District departments, which have been directed to be submitted on or before September 30, next, will show that considerable progress has been made along the lines of public improvements. The fiscal year of the District ended June 30 and the reports of the various branches of the District government when submitted and compiled constitute the annual report of the Commissioners. This latter report is published in four volumes later in the year. The last fiscal year was, all things considered, the most satisfactory in the history of the municipality. The opening of streets and the improvement of those already opened, the laying of sidewalks, the planting of trees, the extension of sewers, work on bridges, the erection of school buildings and other public structures, the cleaning of streets and the general sanitation of the District have progressed more rapidly perhaps than in any like period of the history of the city.

Largest Appropriation for Years.

The work of the Commissioners has proceeded in entire harmony, and the operations of the several departments over which they have supervision have been carried forward according to the policies in vogue for several years. The appropriations for the last year were the largest in the history of the District, and to that fact is due to a large extent the pushing forward of public work along several lines.

It may be said that the routine work of the District Building is increasing at a rapid rate, making necessary the addition of new clerks from year to year to handle the volume of correspondence, accounts, and files. Thousands of letters have to be answered every month, and the records of the correspondence alone are voluminous.

In addition letters which bring subjects of special consideration before the Commissioners require several indorsements, and an equal number of entries upon the records. The number of complaints, application for one thing and another, not to mention the letters asking for appointments, is estimated in the office of Secretary Tindall to be 10,000 a year.

The Health Department.

In the Health Department time and attention have been devoted almost exclusively to routine matters in the several bureaus. The service was enlarged somewhat at the beginning of last year so that greater attention was given to the milk supply and the sale of adulterated foods than formerly. The work in the bureau of contagious diseases was also pressed vigorously, it having been necessary to deal with a long run of smallpox, and to watch during the entire year the progress of the diseases of scarlet fever, diphtheria, measles, etc., which are now epidemic in the city.

In the Electrical Department the appropriations for new lights and extensions of the fire alarm and police signal service were spent to the best advantage, and in each direction there was considerable progress. Much attention was also given during the year to matters pertaining to the enlargement of the telephone service, and during that time the plans for the building of the new conduits in the northwestern section of the city were worked out. They are the joint result of the ideas of the operating company and of the District Electrical Engineer.

The Engineer Department.

The Engineer Department as a whole has been extremely busy for the past year. The surface work, which comes directly under the supervision of Captain Newcomer, has been pushed forward with energy in all parts of the city where appropriations were available and where repairs or new construction was needed. As a result, the asphalt pavements have been considerably extended, new sidewalks and curbs have been laid down, and several hundreds of trees were planted. These improvements are most visible in the northeast and the northwest sections, where the greater portion of the money was spent. Sewer work has gone on as rapidly as the appropriations would allow, and good progress was made. New water mains were laid where sewers were available. Bridge building on the Connecticut Avenue structure and on Massachusetts Avenue, across Rock Creek, has been going on through the year, and several small bridges—notably, one across the stream in the Zoo Park—have been completed during the year. The extension of Sixteenth Street also belongs to the period under consideration.

In the Assessor's Office.

In the Assessor's Office the operation of the new system of keeping accounts went into operation last year, resulting in a material saving of time, and in the collection of a larger part of the taxes. There has been less duplication of payments, and the ease with which the machinery now runs is proof of the wisdom of the change.

The triennial assessment of property under the law was nearly completed during the fiscal year just closed. The results will not be ready for inspection until some time in September, but it has been unofficially announced that the increase of the assessment will be of large proportions.

In the Street Cleaning Department a larger area was cleaned, sprinkled and kept in order than ever before. As far

as the money was provided and facilities were available the work of keeping the city clean has been satisfactory. The garbage service and the collection of ashes were also attended with a good degree of success.

The Board of Charities.

The Board of Charities has completed the first fiscal year since its inauguration. Work in that department has been largely tentative, but substantial progress has been made in the interests of economical administration and in the better care of those dependent upon public support. The contract system of caring for indigents in private institutions may be now regarded as a settled policy of the board.

The Fire Department has been notably successful during the year. While it answered the largest number of calls in the history of the department, the fire losses were less than half what they have been for several years past. This proportion between the number of calls and the fire losses is fairly attributable to better discipline in the department and greater clarity in running the same. The Department of Insurance is little more than fairly organized, but it has made a beginning in the way of giving the District suitable and proper supervision over life, fire, and accident insurance.

The Commissioners are gratified with the progress of the municipal affairs during the fiscal year closed, and while the appropriations for the present fiscal year are not so large as were desired, they feel that the public work will go on and that there will be material and satisfactory progress even toward carrying out some of the large projects for the beautifying of the Capital City during the present fiscal year.

WILL GIVE AWAY HIS FORTUNE OF \$10,000,000

Abraham Slimmer, in His Woodshed Will Disperse Charity.

WAVERLY, Iowa, July 7.—Abraham Slimmer, a resident of Waverly, who is supposed to be worth \$10,000,000, made in the cattle and lumber business, intends to retire to his woodshed, where he is fitting up an office, and spend the rest of his days in giving away his wealth. At the age of seventy-three Mr. Slimmer believes he has found the best method of beneficence, and sharply criticizes the ways of Rockefeller and Carnegie.

In the last few years this philanthropist has given many thousands for hospitals and homes for the aged. He has hospitals all over the Middle West, and rarely does he permit it to be known that he is the donor. "My possessions are a trust fund," he says. "I accumulated from the masses and back to the masses it shall go. And I make such conditions that what I have to give will be there and active for good in a thousand years."

A COMEDY OF THE WAR.

Boer Commando Surrenders After a Prearranged Attack.

The following true story, which has just reached England, illustrates the feeling which is very strong among the fighting Boers against a tame surrender. They loathe the name of "hand-upper," and prefer to be honorably taken in arms when yielding to superior force. Hence only nine surrenders for the week ending May 10 against 892 prisoners.

Commandant X and his commando had made things lively for the British troops in their districts for many months, but of late they had been harassed by frequent "drives." They had lost many men and horses, food was scarce, and the bitter cold weather of the high veldt was well in sight. Therefore they were "fed up" and weary of the war, but their soul revolted at the thought of walking into the British lines under a white flag as "hand-uppers."

He sent in a trusted messenger—a near relative—under a white flag to the nearest column commander to ask for some simple medicine of which his horse was hospitably entertained by the British. Getting a few words alone with his host he confided to him a few facts which gave the gallant officer considerable satisfaction.

He hinted that if, on a certain day, at a spot indicated by a really imposing fence, he would surround the remnants of Commandant X's commando, and attack them in due form, it was possible that a very lengthy resistance might not be offered. That was all, but the hint was followed up, all necessary precautions having been taken against treachery.

There was a good amount of firing on both sides, but the cover was good and the casualties absolutely insignificant. When it was clear that he was fairly surrounded, Commandant X sent out a messenger under a white flag, having first hoisted that symbol in the center of his position.

The net result was that Commandant X, and his commando, over 100 strong, surrendered themselves unconditionally as prisoners yielding to overwhelming force.

Commandant X was complimented by Colonel A. or the long and gallant struggle he had made against our soldiers, the Boers were soon on good terms with the genial "Tommyes," and everybody was pleased with himself.—London Mail.

KING'S BELL STOLEN BY RIVER PIRATES

Relic of Eighteenth Century Missing From Ship.

NEW YORK, July 7.—Recovered from the sea and intended as a coronation present to Edward VII the crew of the ship *Attractor*, moored at Jersey City this morning discovered that during the night river pirates had boarded the vessel and carried away the most precious thing on board—part of an old ship's bell, bearing the inscription, "Prince of Wales, 1740," and consigned to King Edward of England.

The bell, or rather the pieces of it, were entrusted to the care of Capt. W. Scott, of the *Attractor*, by the British officials of Kingston, Jamaica, the captain promising to forward it to the King upon his arrival in port here. The relic, together with coins valued at more than \$10,000, had been recovered from the sea by native fishermen at a point near Kingston and turned over to the British officials. When they discovered the inscription they decided to send it to King Edward as a coronation gift.

Through someone's neglect the *Attractor's* after hatch was not battened down last night. A hawser had been dragged aft and left alongside the hatchway. The thieves, it is believed, used this hawser to hoist the relic on deck, and again to lower it to a boat alongside. The bell weighs 200 pounds.

"THE GERMAN EMPEROR AND THE CORSAIR"

Paris Newspaper Comments on Event at Kiel.

Williams' Visit to Mr. Morgan Not an Epoch-Maker—Trust Magazine Is Blase.

PARIS, July 7.—Mr. J. P. Morgan, the American trust magnate, and his steam yacht *Corsair* are the subject of a humorous sketch in the "Temps," entitled "The German Emperor and the Corsair." The article reads:

"This *Corsair* did not look dangerous. It was a yacht that looked like any other yacht. It was in the roads of Kiel and only seemed to have come there to be present with many others at the German regatta. Not far from her, and flying the imperial flag, the *Hohenzollern* was peacefully lying, and William II was on board. The *Corsair* bore J. Pierpont Morgan and his fortune, a fine cargo for a corsair. Everybody knows that Mr. Morgan is the principal artisan of the ocean trust which has caused such apprehension in the Old World."

"The English and Germans refused to admit they were injured by this tremendous maritime combination. They saw in it, according as they were more or less pessimistic, the beginning of a sort of international marine, independent of governments. Many, and not the least important people, declared it was a danger to Europe. Public rumor attributed to William II himself the opinion that the great American trusts menaced the industry of Europe, and that men like Mr. Morgan would play in the politics of the world a preponderating role."

"No one was ignorant of the great desire which William II has shown to know personally all the men who are at the head of the great affairs of the universe. Surprise was therefore less great than most persons imagined when the people of Berlin learned that the Emperor had visited Mr. Morgan aboard the *Corsair*."

"This view has not created in Germany and America all the effect that the spectators might imagine. The United States is beginning to doubtless to get a bias in regard to the attention which its enormous industrial power is exciting in Europe. The result is that interviews between European sovereigns and American financiers may be of a practical importance than people are disposed to imagine. The remarkable visit of Cecil Rhodes to William II changed nothing in the plans of the Colossus of South Africa. These are as much society as political events, and they have up to the present rather contributed to the personal and legitimate satisfaction of men who desired to know one another than to the regulation of affairs pending between the countries which they represent."

RATTLESNAKES IN CHARGE OF HOUSE

Wisconsin Man Forced to Desert His New Home.

PRAIRIE DU CHIEN, Wis., July 7.—Terrified and discouraged by the presence of numerous rattlesnakes, Muns Helgeson, a farmer, who lived with his family in an out-of-the-way place in the town of Seneca, has torn down his new residence, erected two years ago, and moved back into his old home, half a mile away.

The new house had hardly been completed in the spring of last year when the presence of rattlers was noticed, and as fast as found they were killed. With the approach of summer, however, their numbers increased, and the household was greatly alarmed. Occasionally a snake would get into the house, although no one was bitten.

One evening recently as the family were retiring for the night the mother found a large snake lying on the bed. On another occasion, in midday, while she was rocking the baby to sleep, the house cat gave an alarm, and a snake with sixteen rattles, coiled up and ready to strike, lay under the woman's chair.

They were in the cellar daily and could be heard climbing between the walls and on the ceiling overhead. Last summer the family could stand it no longer, and moved to the old home on the other side of the farm, but returned in the fall.

A rattlesnake den was found this spring in a sort of cave under the house, and although hundreds of reptiles have been killed around the door and the second story has been as secure as ever, Mr. Helgeson decided to demolish the dwelling and rebuild near the site of the old home.

HOSPITAL CORPS TROOP REACHES FREDERICK

On March From This City to Encampment at Gettysburg.

FREDERICK, Md., July 7.—A detachment of the Hospital Corps of the United States Army, under command of Captain Reynolds and Lieutenant Church, passed through Frederick yesterday, en route from Washington to Gettysburg, Pa., where they will go in camp with the State Guards of Pennsylvania and instruct them in hospital work.

There are twelve officers and stewards, forty-two privates, and three hospital wagons in the detachment. They left Washington Thursday morning and are due in Gettysburg tomorrow night. They will remain until July 25, when they will return over the same route, and on to go to the Philippines.

To avoid the excessive heat, they rise at 4 o'clock, breakfast and start marching at 5 o'clock and continue until noon. They have camped at Bethesda Park, Gaithersburg, and Hyattstown, and will spend tonight at Emmitsburg.

PARAMOURS KILL HUSBAND AND WIFE

Slayers Then Seek Minister and Are Married.

Husband a Pittsburg Promoter and Wife a Well-Known Lady of Roane County, Tenn.

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., July 7.—A dispatch from Roane county tells a story to the effect that Agnes Fleming, the beautiful young wife of John Fleming, and Howard Jenkins, a mechanical engineer from Pittsburg, Pa., who had been married only three weeks, were both arrested yesterday for murder. The warrants were issued at the instance of relatives of Fleming and Mrs. Jenkins.

The defendants are said to have conspired to murder Mrs. Fleming's husband and Jenkins' wife in order that they might marry themselves. Both Fleming and Mrs. Jenkins died at the same time, but no suspicion was aroused until the surviving members of the two families were married yesterday morning.

It has been shown that both of the defendants expired from the administration of "night shade" powder. Mrs. Fleming is a member of a prominent Roane county family. It was here that Mr. Jenkins, who had just come from Pittsburg in the interest of a new manufacturing plant which was being promoted.

THE JEWISH CHAUTAUQUA.

Favorable Opening at Atlantic City. Prominent Speakers.

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., July 7.—Nearly all the leaders in the Jewish Chautauqua movement, representing 37 sections of the country, were present yesterday morning when Chancellor Henry Burkowitz, of Philadelphia, opened the sixth session.

The sessions will continue daily until July 27. The courses consist of lectures and debates on questions relating to the Talmud and Judaism. Speakers include Jacob Glimbel, Philadelphia; Dr. Lee H. Frankel, New York; I. Isenberg, Wheeling, W. Va.; Rabbi Harrison, St. Louis; Adolph Moses, Chicago, and Isaac Hassel, Philadelphia.

BATHING IN ENGLAND.

Notable Change Regarding What Is Due to Propriety.

They are getting very gay in England, and some bold, brave feminine bathers are actually going into the ocean without the protection of the time-honored bathing machine. It is amusing to read the serious articles on the subject in the London papers. What an awful shock these bathers would have if they could be transported to Long Branch or Far Rockaway some hot July day and see how the American girl disports herself in the briny!

The "Daily Telegraph" says: "On a stretch of beach to the westward of Hove there grew last season the custom of bathing from tents. The place was easily accessible, even for people in Brighton, and as it was secluded from the main road by the shrubs bordering one to either side of some lawns, it could not be said to offend the susceptibilities of the most fastidious promenade. So popular was the custom that the bathing season became known as the 'Canas Village' and the arrangement was in every way voted an attraction. It recently occurred to a committee of the Hove town council that, in view of the spread of this form of sea bathing, it was desirable to make regulations. One of these 'regulations' being that after 10:30 in the morning, the corporation itself, however, regarding the practice not only as a healthful recreation, but a recommendation to the district, insisted on the facilities offered being absolutely restricted."

"Hence for the season which opens at Whitstable Hove has provided a recognized space within which tent bathing alone will be the daily institution, the municipality providing shelters and screens on hire, and appointing officials to watch over the proprieties (!). There can be no doubt that this more open style of bathing from the beach is destined to supersede the use of the old-fashioned machine, with its stuffy atmosphere and depressing surroundings. Most of the private tents are formed of colored canvas raised on a folding frame. They are spacious enough to admit of the introduction of a deck chair, in which the bather, on emerging from the water, can, if so inclined, repose in the sunshine, as is done at several continental watering places, where the open-air system is deemed a valuable adjunct to sea bathing. This experiment alone will be watched with keen interest. Reports from all seaside resorts show that English notions on the subject of bathing are undergoing a great change. The new style will, it is expected, impart to the beach an element of the pleasure and grace added by nature to the daily dip. In Brighton itself the movement has not advanced so far. The close proximity of the promenade to the foreshore presents certain difficulties in the way of tent bathing. Bathers themselves prefer as much seclusion as possible; and it is, of course, desirable that no section of the public should be offended by the arrangements."

The Jockey Club of J. Reiff, the month for at the Rouen races. W. C. sojour attend Provinc John for bl he ha Intrud p one of the best g the prominent ow the ball with the majority of him in a dash r Bailey of Texas ing establishment recently added to f several good

IN THE BASEBALL WORLD

AMERICAN LEAGUE.

Results of Yesterday's Games.

Cleveland, 6; Chicago, 2. St. Louis, 2; Detroit, 1.

Where They Play Today.

Washington at Baltimore. Philadelphia at Boston. Cleveland at Chicago.

Standing of the Teams.

Chicago	Won.	Lost.	Per C.
Chicago	27	22	.556
Boston	25	28	.472
St. Louis	31	28	.523
Philadelphia	30	28	.517
Washington	29	34	.460
Detroit	28	33	.459
Baltimore	28	34	.452
Cleveland	27	38	.415

Yesterday's Games.

At Chicago	R.	H.	E.
Cleveland	10	10	13
Chicago	0	0	10
At St. Louis	R.	H.	E.
St. Louis	0	0	10
Detroit	0	0	10

NATIONAL LEAGUE.

Results of Yesterday's Games.

St. Louis, 7; New York, 1. Cincinnati, 3; Brooklyn, 14. Chicago, 8; Pittsburgh, 2.

Where They Play Today.

Philadelphia at Pittsburg. New York at Chicago. Brooklyn at Cincinnati. Boston at St. Louis.

Standing of the Teams.

Pittsburg	Won.	Lost.	Per C.
Pittsburg	45	14	.763
Brooklyn	38	29	.567
Boston	33	27	.550
Philadelphia	29	26	.527
Chicago	33	30	.524
St. Louis	28	36	.438
Cincinnati	24	36	.400
New York	20	42	.323

GENERAL SPORTING GOSSIP.

W. K. Vanderbilt has cabled from Paris to have his seventy-foot yacht *Virginia* made ready for the Newport races this summer. The *Herreshoffs*, at Bristol, have been given the order, and will rush the work on the sloop. Among other yachts which will contest in the races are the *Mineola*, the *Yankee*, and the *Rainbow*.

Word was received at Sheepshead Bay that John A. Drake's Wyeth, winner of the American Derby, will meet the best of the Eastern three-year-olds, including Hono, Arsenal, and others, during the Saratoga meeting. Wyeth will be a starter in the Huron Handicap, at a new three-year-olds, and in the race for the Saratoga Cup, at a mile and three-quarters.

A novel golf match was recently played at the Charleston Country Club. One member made a wager with another that he would go around the course in less than three hours. The challenger accepted, the golfer thinking he had a certainty, more especially as the thrower was out of practice. The result did not meet his anticipations, as the thrower went the round in forty-nine, which was two strokes less than the score returned by the man with the clubs.—London Golf.

Jack O'Brien is the right kind of a champion. Since he returned from England he has met them all white and black, fighting from one to three times a week, and never losing a battle. Good boy!—Chicago Journal.

The good performer DeCanter has been sold by F. R. Hitchcock to Thomas F. Ryan. The horse will be shipped to Virginia and placed in the stud.

Hewitt, the steeplechase rider, who was injured by a fall at Providence, is greatly improved, and is expected to be around again in a few days.

Alex Smith, the Nassau Country Club professional, has an enthusiastic pupil and imitator in person of a little Chicago eleven-year-old named Paul Hunter. Through watching Smith at every opportunity at Washington Park, Chicago, and Pasadena, Cal., the youngster has acquired a form which is very like the great professional's style. The boy did the Pasadena Country Club course in 46, where a stiff bogey is 40, and went out at Los Angeles in 44.

Governor Yates, of Illinois, has accepted the invitation to open the Olympic games at Chicago in 1904. The managers are trying to secure the governors of other States to be present at the formal opening.

E. J. Baldwin's offer to back his colt *Cruzados* for \$10,000 against any colt in America is likely to be accepted by Sam Hildreth on behalf of his colt *McChesney*. The race is to be over the Derby route, one and a half miles.

In all events in which the horse figures, whether on the trotting or running turf, in the show ring or upon the polo field, the American horse and horseman have won the national and international honors. In the world of sports America leads.

In the recent hill-climbing races in Vienna the locomobile distinguished itself among foreign carriages. The course was 4.2 kilometers in length, and the great winner was a Viennese. In the volkrete class a 1-horse power machine, making better time than any of over twice this horsepower, won.

The American sticking races. W. C. sojour attend Provinc John for bl he ha Intrud p

one of the best g the prominent ow the ball with the majority of him in a dash

r Bailey of Texas ing establishment recently added to f several good

one of the best g the prominent ow the ball with the majority of him in a dash

r Bailey of Texas ing establishment recently added to f several good

one of the best g the prominent ow the ball with the majority of him in a dash

r Bailey of Texas ing establishment recently added to f several good

SPOONER AND PLATT DISCUSS POLITICS

Fanned by Ocean Breezes, Both Are Optimistic

SPOONER ON RECIPROCITY

Failure of Congress to Act in Cuba's Behalf Will Not Affect Republican Vote. A Pan ty the Senior Senator From New York.

NEW YORK, July 7.—Senator Spooner was at one of the Manhattan hotels yesterday. He had a long talk with Senator Platt and also said a few words on his own account to newspaper men.

Mr. Spooner said that in his opinion the Bailey-Beveridge episode was closed so far as the two Senators are concerned, but he thought that Judge Penfield's remarks might cause some friction. The Wisconsin Senator does not believe that the failure of Congress to act with regard to reciprocity with Cuba or to grant exemptions in duties to the Cubans will affect the Republican vote next fall.

President Can Do Nothing.

The President, he says, can do nothing while Congress is not in session, and any action that he might take would certainly have to be ratified by the Senate, if not by the House also, at the next session. Senator Spooner would not discuss Presidential probabilities.

Senator Platt also conversed with the newspaper men with the quizzicality that seems to be an evidence of a contented frame of mind with him.

"What can I do for you, gentlemen?" was his greeting to the reporters.

"What did you think of the President's speech at Pittsburg?" he was asked.

"Did not read it," was the Senator's reply.

"Do you think Colonel Roosevelt will be nominated in 1904?"

"Roosevelt Will Win, If—"

"I think so," the Senator replied, "if he gets the votes of New York and Pennsylvania."

"What about Senator Hanna's chances?" The Senator shrugged his shoulders.

"Do you think Senator Hanna wants the nomination?"

"Ah," the Senator rejoined, "I am not speaking for Mr. Hanna."

Then, facing the reporters, Senator Platt inquired: "What do you hear about Lieutenant Governor Woodruff? Has he returned yet?"

"No," several reporters replied in chorus.

Mr. Woodruff Waits.

The Senator was informed that cable dispatches announced that Mr. Woodruff was one of the volunteer waiters yesterday at the dinner given to the poet of London by King Edward VII.

"So," the Senator remarked, inquiringly. Then he smiled and added: "Everything comes to him who waits."

THE MORNING TIMES

PRICE... 2 CENTS.

A COMPLETE AND ACCURATE RECORD OF THE NEWS AT HOME AND ABROAD

YOU MUST HAVE IT IF YOU INTEND TO KEEP POSTED ON WHAT IS GOING ON HERE AND IN THE OUTSIDE WORLD. A PAPER FOR EVERY HOME. EASY TO READ. CLEAN AND FAIR.

SOME OF ITS MANY DAILY FEATURES....

THE BEST AND MOST COMPLETE SPORTING PAGE OF ANY PAPER PUBLISHED IN WASHINGTON. FINANCE, STOCKS AND TRADE. THE LOCAL FIELD THOROUGHLY COVERED. AN EDITORIAL PAGE THAT NOT ONLY INTERESTS BUT EDUCATES AND HAS MANY FEATURES PECULIARLY ITS OWN.

TELLS THE NEWS OF ALL THE WORLD TERSELY AND CORRECTLY.

THE MORNING TIMES

PRICE... 2 CENTS.